

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JERUSA 00966 031615Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----086553 031617Z /53

O 031555Z APR 78
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0679
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 0966

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS 1 AND 2
TAGS: PGOV, PBOR, MARR, UNSC, IS, LE, XF
SUBJECT: KASMIYA BRIDGE

1. WHEN QUERIED, SIILASVUO APRIL 3 SAID THERE HAD BEEN NO
CHANGE REGARDING THE KASMIYA BRIDGE (I.E. FRENCH WERE NOT
CURRENTLY ATTEMPTING TO TAKE CONTROL).

2. ON APRIL 3, WE SAW A TELEGRAM FROM GUYER/URQUHART
TO SIILASVUO INSTRUCTING HIM FOR THE TIME BEING TO MAINTAIN
STATUS QUO AND HOLD UNIFIL EFFORTS TO TAKE CONTROL OF
KASMIYA BRIDGE IN ABEYYANCE. OTHER POINTS PARAPHRASED
BELOW.

3. CONCERNING JOINT OCCUPANCY, ORIGINAL IDEA HAD BEEN
JOINT UNIFIL-GOL OPERATION, WHICH HAS SINCE PROVED TO
BE NOT FEASIBLE, AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING. UNNY
SUGGESTION FOR JOINT OCCUPANCY WITH OTHER PARTIES WAS
BASED ON PRAGMATIC CONSIDERATIONS, NOT LEAST OF WHICH IS
UNIFIL'S NEED TO HAVE USE OF BRIDGE FOR NORMAL COMMUNI-
CATIONS AND LOGISTICS. OBVIOUSLY, ALL OF THESE IDEAS
DEPEND VERY MUCH ON LOCAL CONDITIONS AND DEVELOPING

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RELATIONS OF THE VARIOUS PARTIES, INCLUDING UNIFIL.

4. CONCERNING A POINT RAISED BY SIILASVUO, OBVIOUSLY
CONTACT WITH ALL FACTIONS HAS TO BE MAINTAINED ON THE
GROUND AS A PRACTICAL MATTER. HOWEVER, ARAFAT REMAINS OUR
(I.E. THE U.N.'S) PRINCIPAL CHANNEL AND POINT OF CONTACT WITH PLO
IN VIEW OF HIS OFFICIAL POSITION IN THE ORGANIZATION.

5. COMMENT: IN THIS GLIMPSE BEHIND THE SCENES, IT
APPEARS UNNY NOT AS FIRM AS SIILASVUO ON NEED TO TRY TO
GET GOL AUTHORITY ASSOCIATED WITH UNIFIL IN SOUTH
LEBANON. FROM HERE, JOINT UNIFIL OPERATION WITH PLO
OR OTHER PALESTINIAN ELEMENTS SEEMS LIKE A BAD IDEA IN VIEW
OUR DESIRE REINTRODUCE GOL PRESENCE IN SOUTH. THE BRIDGE
IS A TOUCHY PROBLEM BUT IT MIGHT BE BETTER FOR
THE PRESENT TO LEAVE IT A NO MAN'S LAND WHILE
USING THE LAND ROUTE BETWEEN TYRE AND AZ ZAHrani AS MUCH AS
POSSIBLE AND BRINGING IN AS MANY REINFORCEMENTS AND
SUPPLIES TO TYRE BY SEA AS FEASIBLE. PERHAPS OUR VIEWS
ON GOL ROLE WILL HAVE TO BE REINFORCED WITH UNNY. IT
ESSENTIAL, HOWEVER, NOFORN RESTRICTION OF THIS MESSAGE BE
MAINTAINED.
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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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TAGS: PGOV, PBOR, MARR, IS, LE, XF, UNSC, UNIFIL
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